

Claims Amendment

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including  
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation  
3 comprising:  
4       reserving a first portion of the operating system controllable display surface  
5 for exclusive use by a first program; and  
6       rendering contents in said reserved first portion of the operating system  
7 controllable display surface, by said first program, excluding all other programs from  
8 using said reserved first portion of operating system controllable display surface.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said reserving comprises  
2 requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a smaller pixel  
3 configuration.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises  
2 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to  
3 configure a display hardware to said smaller pixel configuration.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises  
2 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of said display mode switch  
3 request to said window manager.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein  
2 the method further comprises determining if a first event has occurred; and  
3 said reserving is performed only if the first event is determined to have  
4 occurred.

1 6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the method further  
2 comprises  
3 determining if a second event has occurred; and  
4 unreserving said first portion of the operating system controllable display  
5 surface for exclusive use by said first program if the second event is determined to  
6 have occurred.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said unreserving comprises  
2 requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a larger pixel  
3 configuration.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said unreserving further comprises  
2 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to  
3 configure a display hardware to said larger pixel configuration.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said reserving further comprises  
2 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of said display mode switch  
3 request to said window manager.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further  
2 comprises  
3 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full  
4 screen mode; and  
5 notifying said first program to temporarily stop rendering contents in said  
6 reserved first portion of the operating system controllable display surface.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further  
2 comprises  
3 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode from a  
4 full screen mode to a normal mode; and  
5 notifying said first program to resume rendering contents in said reserved first  
6 portion of the operating system controllable display surface.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises  
2 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full  
3 screen mode; and  
4 upon detecting such as request, intercepting all page flipping calls by said  
5 application, and forwarding each of said page flipping calls onward only after said  
6 first program has updated a back buffer.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the method further  
2 comprises interacting with said full screen mode requesting application to maintain  
3 said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable display surface

1 14. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including  
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation.  
3 comprising:  
4 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of a display mode switch  
5 request to a window manager;  
6 submitting said display mode switch request to said window manager; and  
7 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device  
8 driver to configure a display hardware in accordance with said display mode switch

9 request, to effectuate reservation of an area of the operating system controllable  
10 display surface for exclusive use by a program.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said display mode switch request  
2 is a request to switch to a selected one of a smaller and a larger pixel configuration.

1 16. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including  
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation  
3 comprising:  
4 determining if a first event has occurred;  
5 operating the display device with the operating system controllable display  
6 surface having one or more exclusive use display areas whose contents are  
7 persistently visible if the first event is determined to have occurred;  
8 determining if a second event has occurred; and  
9 operating the display device with the operating system controllable display  
10 surface having no exclusive use display area whose contents are persistently visible  
11 if the second event is determined to have occurred.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said operating of the  
2 display device with the operating system controllable display surface having one or  
3 more exclusive use display areas whose contents are persistently visible further  
4 comprises accommodating an application that operates in a full screen mode.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises  
2 temporarily suspending rendering contents into said exclusive use display areas.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises  
2 interacting with said application that operates in a full screen mode to at least  
3 partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 20. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including  
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation  
3 comprising:

4 intercepting a page flipping call by an application that operates in a full screen  
5 mode;

6 updating locations of a back buffer unused by said application with contents  
7 to be persistently visible in an area of the operating system controllable display  
8 surface reserved for the exclusive use of the application; and

9 forwarding said page flipping call onward after said updating.

1 21. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming  
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the  
4 operations set forth in claim 1.

1 22. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming  
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the  
4 operations set forth in claim 14.

1 23. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

- 2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming  
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the  
4 operations set forth in claim 16.

- 1 24. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming  
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the  
4 operations set forth in claim 20.

- 1 25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
2 a display device having a display surface controllable by an operating system;  
3 a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming  
4 instructions designed to implement a display device driver to render displays on said  
5 operating system controllable display surface of said display device, and an  
6 exclusive use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to facilitate  
7 exclusive use of at least a first sub-portion of said operating system controllable  
8 display surface for rendering persistently visible contents; and  
9 a processor coupled to the display device and the storage medium to execute  
10 the programming instructions.

- 1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is  
2 equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change request from a window  
3 manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon intercepting said  
4 display mode change request, aborting said display mode change request.

- 1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is  
2 equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode

3 of operation from an application, and in response, notifying applications associated  
4 with said exclusive use display areas to temporarily suspend rendering contents into  
5 said exclusive use display areas.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is  
2 equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode  
3 of operation from an application, and interact with said application to at least  
4 partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the exclusive use manager is  
2 further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said application, and facilitating  
3 rendering of contents into said exclusive use display areas by applications  
4 associated with the exclusive use display areas prior to forwarding the intercepted  
5 page flipping calls.

1 30. (Previously Withdrawn) An operating system comprising:  
2 a display device driver to render displays on a display surface of a display  
3 device; and  
4 an exclusive use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to  
5 facilitate exclusive use of at least a first sub-portion of said display surface for  
6 rendering persistently visible contents.

1 31. (Previously Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the  
2 exclusive use manager is equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change  
3 request from a window manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon  
4 intercepting said display mode change request, aborting said display mode change  
5 request.

1 32. (Previously Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the  
2 exclusive use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to  
3 enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and in response, notifying  
4 applications associated with said exclusive use display areas to temporarily suspend  
5 rendering contents into said exclusive use display areas.

1 33. (Previously Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the  
2 exclusive use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to  
3 enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and interact with said  
4 application to at least partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 34. (Previously Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the  
2 exclusive use manager is further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said  
3 application, and facilitating rendering of contents into said exclusive use display  
4 areas by applications associated with the exclusive use display areas prior to  
5 forwarding the intercepted page flipping calls.